

The Sourdough

S E N T I N E L

Nov. 2, 2001

www.elmendorf.af.mil/Sentinel.htm

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SCARY WEEK!



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News in Brief

Outstanding Performers

■ Senior Airman Brandy M. Rios of the 3rd Medical Support Squadron observed a person jumping over a base gate, notified Security Forces, waited for them to arrive, and identified the subject. Rios' sense of duty contributed to mission success by ensuring Elmendorf's security.

■ Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey E. Lockhart of the 3rd Security Forces Squadron detected smoke around the composite medical facility and determined that it was coming from a pipe leaking flammable liquid oxygen. Lockhart sounded the alarm, established a cordon and evacuated personnel. His alertness and ability to operate under pressure averted a potential disaster.

■ Staff Sgt. Mark L. Patnaude of the 90th Fighter Squadron stepped up as the flightline expeditor to coordinate a flawless aircraft launch spanning three days. Patnaude supervised the rebuilding of a cannibalized aircraft and completed an acceptance inspection in a depot return aircraft in half the normal amount of time.

■ Maj. Barbara Jones, health promotion manager of the 3rd Medical Group, spearheaded the 3rd Wing's participation in the Anchorage City of Lights program Oct. 12. She led 125 volunteers and helped the Anchorage Chamber of Commerce string 250,000 lights downtown. Elmendorf's volunteer effort



STAFF SGT. THEO MCNAMARA

Happy holidays from Alaska

Staff Sgt. Jeramie Brown, Army and Air Force Hometown News Service, films Chaplain (Capt.) Timothy Moermond, his wife Julie, and their two daughters, Abby, 4, and Rebecca, 2, outside the hospital for a holiday greeting Oct. 25. More than 200 greetings were filmed on Elmendorf.

helped foster community relations.

■ Senior Airman Glenda P. Dalton of the 3rd Equipment Maintenance Squadron's Aircraft Ground Equipment Flight helped identify 12 discrepancies during a quarterly inspection. The errors were found on a review of more than 1,300 filed forms. She averted the shipment of

\$383,000 in excess equipment.

■ Airman 1st Class Tristan Kingsley of the 3rd Civil Engineer Squadron showed exemplary customer service and a can-do attitude when he responded to a heating problem in an airman's room in Glacier Hall. Kingsley responded to the call within 10 minutes, and worked for two hours to fix the problem.

Action Line

CDC parking lots need snow removal

Q: I would like to begin by thanking the men and women who work the long hours plowing the streets and sidewalks on base.

The reason I'm writing to the action line is that I have a concern about the parking lots at both Child Development Centers. I have a 4-month-old that goes to daycare at Denali and a 2-year-old that goes to Katmai. Both parking lots are awful.

How can we expect a two-year old to walk through a parking lot where the snow is up to their knees? We can't. Therefore, parents who have two kids attending daycare must carry them both along with a diaper bag.

I don't understand why the roads to the horse stables are plowed and the parking lots for the CDCs are not. What was shoveled at Katmai was done by one of the ladies who works

Do you have a problem you can't seem to get solved? Would you like to recognize someone for a job well done?

The commander's action line is your avenue to communicate your thoughts and questions—good or bad—directly to the commander, Brig. Gen. Doug Fraser. Your calls will get the commander's personal attention and be answered in a timely manner.

If you have a question, call or e-mail the action line at:

552-2224
actionline@elmendorf.af.mil



**Brig. Gen.
Doug Fraser**

the front desk. I'm sure that shoveling snow is not part of her job.

Can you please take a look at the bases priorities for plowing snow? I understand that Elmendorf is a very big base and a lot of parking lots need plowing. I also understand they are plowed according to a priority list. I think the plowing of the CDC parking lots needs to be reconsidered and made a higher priority.

Thank you, I appreciate your time.

A: We apologize for any inconvenience caused by the

snow in the CDC parking lots. We agree that these parking lots should be among the first to be plowed.

All Services facility parking lots are plowed by a contractor who is very responsive to requirements. However, as the contractor attempted to meet requirements after the most recent snowfall, he was delayed by recent changes to base entry requirements.

We apologize for our oversight and will work hard in the future to clear the parking lots as quickly as possible.



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**Best in DoD
2000
Best in Air Force
1999 & 2000
Best in PACAF
1998, 1999 & 2000**

Brig. Gen. Douglas M. Fraser
3rd Wing Commander
Maj. John Kennedy
Chief, Public Affairs
Staff Sgt. Jim Fisher
Editor
Senior Airman Connie L. Bias
Assistant Editor

PHOTOS & GRAPHICS

Extensive photographic and graphical support is provided to the Sourdough Sentinel each week by the 3rd Communications Squadron's Visual Information Flight. The following photos/illustrations appear in this week's edition:
Page 3: Photos by Airman 1st Class Joe Laws, graphics by Staff Sgt. Jim Fisher



3rd Wing History Moment



Oct. 31, 1951: Throughout the month of Oct. 1951, the 3rd Bomb Wing flew an astounding total of 1,017 sorties.



In the war against terror, information assurance is an integral component of force protection and operations security.

The following IA briefing is derived from information provided by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Dept. of Justice and the System Administration, Networking and Security Institute.

According data compiled by these institutions, there are five common mistakes average computer users make, compromising information security:

■ Not surprisingly, at the top of the list is opening unsolicited e-mail without verifying the source or checking content. Viruses are most commonly spread through e-mail.

■ Failing to install security patches, especially for Microsoft software packages like Office, Internet Explorer and Netscape's web browsers. A few software vulnerabilities account for the majority of successful attacks. Hackers are opportunistic, taking the easiest and most convenient route.

They count on organizations not making updates or fixing problems and often find targets by scanning the internet for vulnerable systems.

■ Installing screen savers or games from unknown sources.

■ Not backing up files, or not testing their backup sources or verifying copied files.

■ Though this shouldn't be an issue on Elmendorf, many users create vulnerability by using a modem while connected to local area networks.

We can't afford to have any weak links. We must make a concerted effort to keep vigilant and make information assurance our No. 1 priority. Computer Network Defense is key to us successfully combating Cyber Terrorism.

Extinguishing the risk

Fire prevention office reaches out to douse danger of home fires

By Staff Sgt. Theo McNamara
3rd Wing Public Affairs

Stop, drop and roll!

Virtually every 5-year-old knows and understands the meaning of these words. And the reason they're so quick to recognize them is partly because there's an Elmendorf team dedicated to making sure they do.

The 3rd Civil Engineer Squadron's Fire Prevention Office is made up of a five-member team that's always on the lookout for ways to educate Elmendorf people about fire safety. Some of the office's more visible efforts include firehouse tours for school children, open houses, fire prevention week activities and booths at the Joint Military Mall. But their efforts to educate families on how to avoid house fires or stay safe in the event of one doesn't end there.

"Our goal is to keep the operational firefighters in the fire station," said Ford Brooks, assistant fire chief, Fire Prevention.

To make that happen, Brooks is doing what a lot of bases aren't — he and his team of firefighters are making house calls. "We feel like going to someone's house gives more of a personal touch and we think people relate better when we do our briefing in their home," he said. "This way we can actually touch a smoke detector in their home and show them how to test it."

Brooks, who's spent more than 30 years as a firefighter, stands behind his belief that, if it gets the message out about fire prevention, he's all for it. And he and his staff have a theory that if you get the message out to children, they'll teach the parents. "Children will keep impressing upon the parents that making the home safe is important. We have parents telling us all the time that their children are making them do these things," he said.

This year alone the fire prevention team has reached more than 1,775 children on Elmendorf and they're still reaching out — not just to children, but adults as well. In fact, they're available to speak at commander's calls, social events, and give lectures whenever asked, according to Brooks.

When the team isn't educating home residents or at the base exchange handing out information about fire safety, they're likely to be spotted taking care of one of their many other responsibilities like conducting building inspections on base, giving a new home briefing or fire extinguisher demonstration class.

The team inspects every building on Elmendorf at least annually and while they're inspecting, they're also quizzing people on what to do in case of a fire.

"We check every facility annually, but many of Elmendorf's buildings house things of great value and those buildings, like the Child Development Centers, get checked at least twice a year."

When it comes to protecting children in Elmendorf's CDCs and in the private homes on base that provide daycare, the fire department has a force multiplier — the caregivers. One of the fire



prevention office's responsibilities is to train the caregivers on fire safety from the basics to getting the kids out quickly and safely.

"The firefighters go over a very extensive checklist with our new home-care providers. Providers' homes are checked for detectors. Firefighters also inquire about the number of children that in the home and determine if the provider and the children can exit safely and quickly," said Janet Lewis, Lead Family Child Care Coordinator. "Whenever and whatever the

questions or concerns, they're there to help us."

Other base facilities such as aircraft hangars get semi-annual inspections as well. The inspections identify potential hazards that if not corrected, will cause a fire or cause a fire to spread. The alarm systems are tested and all exits are confirmed to be uncluttered and accessible.

In-home inspections are available to Elmendorf housing residents. "If base residents feel like they've done everything they can do to make their house safe and still feel uncertain, they can have us do an in-home inspection," said Brooks.

He added that now's the time to make sure that every home is fire protected. "Winter is here early this year and it's likely that the things you normally do to prepare for winter safety didn't get done before the snowfall, and now's the best time to do them, said Brooks.

Stop by the fire department at 6326 Arctic Warrior Drive or call 552-2620 for more information.

Fire Safety Checklist

Kitchen Safety

- Stay in the kitchen when cooking and keep stovetop and counters uncluttered.
- Keep potholders within reach
- Ensure curtains are away from flame.
- Establish a "kid-free zone" three feet around the stove.

Heating Safety

- Turn off the space heater, if permitted, when you leave the room and don't place them within three feet of people, furniture or anything flammable.
- Fireplaces should have a sturdy screen.
- Have your chimney inspected annually.
- Have furnace serviced in accordance with the manufacture's recommendations.
- Store propane tanks and other fuels safely outside of your home.

Electrical Safety

- Extension cords should not be run under carpets and rugs or across doorways.
- Electrical cords shouldn't be cracked or frayed.
- Kitchen appliances should be plugged into separate receptacle outlets.

Smoke Alarms and Fire Escape

- Check the batteries in all smoke alarms.
- All exits should be clear and uncluttered.
- Have a home fire escape plan that includes two exits — a door and a window.
- Practice a home fire escape plan at least twice a year.
- Have a safe gathering place outside.
- Call 911 from a neighbor's house.



AIRMAN 1ST CLASS JOE LAWS

Ford Brooks, assistant fire chief, Fire Prevention, conducts a fire extinguisher inspection.

Commander’s Shadow

Senior Airman Julia R. Nash of the 3rd Dental Squadron is this week’s commander’s shadow.

Book fair

Mount Spurr Elementary School hosts its annual Fall Scholastic Book Fair Tuesday through Nov. 9 in room 132. The fair is from 1:30-4:30 p.m. Tuesday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, and from 1-4 p.m. Nov. 9. The school is located at 8414 McGuire Ave.

Ofiicer forums planned

A series of forums on the Air Force’s Developing Aerospace Leaders program is planned at Elmendorf Nov. 13 and 14 to educate people on the chief of staff initiative. Maj. Gen. (retired) Chuck Link, DAL program office director, will present the forum at noon Nov. 13 in the Susitna Club for 3rd Wing company grade officers; 2 p.m. Nov. 13 in the Susitna Club for 3rd Wing field grade officers; 9 a.m. Nov. 14 in the Reeves Conference Center for 11th Air Force and Alaskan Command company and field grade officers; and 1 p.m. Nov. 14 in the Reeves Conference Center for senior Elmendorf O-6s (by invitation). For information, call Maj. Holly Rawson at 552-1808.

Service school selections released

Sixteen Elmendorf officers are slated to attend senior and intermediate service schools, the Air Force Personnel Center announced Tuesday.

Senior Service School

Primaries

- Lt. Col. Michael Phillips, 381 IS
- Lt. Col. Kenneth Wilsbach, 19 FS
- Lt. Col. Christof Cordes, 962 AACS

Alternates

- Lt. Col. Bradley Dodd, 90 FS
- Lt. Col. Kevin Hanford, 19 FS
- Lt. Col. Larry Jones, 3 OSS
- Lt. Col. Brian Killough, ALCOM

Family Support Center

The Family Support Center has the following activities planned:

- Learn to find the “right” job with proactive, systematic job searches Monday at 9 a.m.
- The University of Alaska Anchorage, Educational Opportunity Center offers the Strong Assessment to help you decide on the right career Monday at 1 p.m.
- Spouses of deployed or remote tour members meet at the Hearts Apart Coffee Break Tuesday at 9:30 a.m.

■ Veterans can learn about eligibility and applications for benefits Wednesday at 1 p.m.

■ Learn new ideas for recovering from lost relationships Thursday at noon.

■ Learn to tap the “hidden” job market Nov. 9 at 9 a.m.

For more information or to make reservations, call 552-4943.

NRTW

National Radiologic Technology Week is Monday through Nov. 10. The first NRTW was in 1979. The annual celebration promotes the role medical imaging and radiation therapy professionals play in providing health care.

Intermediate Service School

Primaries:

- Maj. Jay Bickley, 962 AACS
- Maj. Donald Felton, 3 WG
- Maj. Michael Neeman, 3 OSS
- Maj. Karl Von Luhrte, 611 COF
- Maj. Gary Droubay, 3 OSS

Alternates:

- Maj. Steven Plank, 3 OSS
- Maj. Holly Rawson, 611 COF
- Maj. Tom Smith, 3 OSS
- Maj. Timothy Traub, 381 IS

Congratulations to these future senior leaders.



Chapel Schedule

Catholic Parish

- Weekday Mass: noon at the Chapel Center
- Friday Mass: noon at the Hospital Chapel
- Saturday Mass: 5 p.m. at Chapel 2
- Sunday Mass: 10:30 a.m. at Chapel 1
- Confession: 4:15 p.m. Saturday at Chapel 2

Protestant Sunday

- Liturgical service: 9 a.m. at Chapel 2
- Celebration (traditional): 9 a.m. at Chapel 1
- Praise and Worship (contemporary): 11:45 at Chapel 2
- Gospel service: noon at Chapel 2

Religious education

- Catholic: Sundays from 9-10 a.m. at the Chapel
- Protestant: Sundays from 10:25-11:15 a.m. at the Chapel Center

Other faiths

Contact the Chapel at 552-4422 for information.

Pocket cards on the way

Information protects troops against attacks

By Staff Sgt. Amy Parr
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — In light of recent terrorist activities and with the threat of more on the horizon, Air Force leaders developed an informational pocket card on potential biological and chemical attacks.

“The threat of terrorism and our heightened security measures have made these very stressful times for all of us,” said Gen. John P. Jumper, Air Force chief of staff. “Even though we may not know what the future holds, it is our responsibility to prepare for the full spectrum of threats and possible terrorist actions.”

Some actions may include chemical and biological events, Jumper said.

Although the card is not meant to

answer all questions when dealing with biological and chemical agents, Jumper said it is “very basic and easy to carry,” and might help someone survive when faced with an emergency situation.

The card, scheduled to be delivered Air Force-wide by the end of the month via the medical community, gives guidance for actions after attacks in both indoor and outdoor situations.

An electronic version has also been distributed to command and medical leadership for local duplication and widest dissemination.

“It is imperative that our people have this information close at hand to help them be prepared to take basic protective measures when dealing with a chemical or biological exposure,” Jumper said.

More details on local pocket card distribution at Elmendorf will be provided as it becomes available.



STAFF SGT. JIM FISHER

Intense scrutiny

Staff Sgts. Max Park, 3rd Security Forces Squadron, and Michelle Caywood, Bio-Environmental Engineering, inspect commercial vehicles at the Post Road Gate Monday. Security forces and augmentees have been braving sub-freezing temperatures for weeks, ensuring the safety of team Elmendorf.

Removing vehicle decals denies unauthorized entry

By Staff Sgt. Amy Parr
Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — When selling a vehicle, some people only picture the money they are about to make. But there is another picture to focus on: the potential effect that sale may have on installation security if the proper procedures for removing vehicle decals are not followed.

If people do not remove their vehicle decals when ownership changes, the new owners could gain unauthorized access to a base. Whether out of curiosity or with intent to cause harm, that access

is unlawful.

“Decals must be removed from a vehicle before possession is transferred to another person and before a person leaves Elmendorf for a new assignment,” said Capt. Daniel Pempel, the 3rd Wing’s anti-terrorism force protection officer. The decals must also be removed when a person is released from active duty, separates from the service or terminates civilian employment with a military service or another Department of Defense agency.

“Even if the person buying the vehicle will have stickers, the old decals must be removed, and

the new vehicle owner must re-register the vehicle,” said Pempel. “The same goes for moving to a new base. Remove your decals before leaving Elmendorf, turn them in at the Visitors Center, and re-register the vehicle at the new installation.”

The decal procedures provide more effective force protection measures, and failure to follow decal procedures by servicemembers is punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice and Title 18 of the federal statute for civilians.

For more information on vehicle decals, stop by the Security Forces Visitors Center at the Boniface Gate or call 552-5988.

the weekend

► spotlight

► fri



☒ Quality

☒ Satisfaction

☒ Fun!

3rd Services customers get a chance to rate food, fun, facilities

By Mary M. Rall
3rd Services Marketing

In this day and age, two cents doesn't go too far. However, the 3rd Services Squadron staff can work wonders with its patrons' two cents worth of opinions through the 2001 Customer Feedback Survey.

Surveys will be making their way to mailboxes of randomly selected individuals in the immediate future. Survey responses will help continue to shape services programs into the preferred choice for community programs and services that contribute to readiness and productivity by promoting

fitness, esprit de corps, and a better quality of life for those they serve.

Individuals receiving a survey will be asked to express how satisfied they are with services programs and activities. Participants should include the opinions of their spouses and children for their input in areas that apply to their participation in services activities as well. By looking at all aspects of services facilities that are a part of each family's lives, patrons can help to achieve the broadest idea of how they can be better served.

Survey results will be used to help managers identify areas of customer dissatisfaction and liking concerning programming and features, and assist headquarters in creating corporate standards and instruction requirements.

Although the survey will be conducted at 94 Air Force installations throughout the world, responses made by individuals here can make a

difference in the programming that touches their daily lives now and in the future. With the focus of the survey being placed on Air Force active duty officers, enlisted, personnel, DoD civilians, retirees, and their families, services will be able to obtain the widest perspective on where it stands and what steps it can take toward further meeting the needs and desires of all of its costumers.

Opinions are expressed everyday about everything from the brand of potato chips we consume to the type of car we drive. While all are important and contribute to the happiness of our day-to-day lives, few have the capacity for improving the quality of life for a community.

By putting two cents worth into the Customer Feedback Survey, participants will not only have an opportunity to express themselves, but will be opening the door to better opportunities for the entire base.

For more information, contact the Marketing Office at 552-5900.

► **SUPER FRIDAY:** Pull up a stool for Super Friday at 5:30 p.m. at the Susitna and Kashim Clubs and you can grab some extra special snacks like roast beef that's cut to order and some flaming hot wings. **753-3131/6131**

► **MOVIE:** *Jeepers Creepers (R)*. Two meddling kids find "horrorific" intrigue when they drive down the wrong road on the way home from spring break. Definitely creepy. 7 p.m.

► sat

► **CRAFTY KIDS:** Round off your kids' weekend by taking them to the Skills Development Center to make Kids' Turkey Wind-socks from 1-3 p.m. for \$10. **552-2470**

► **MOVIE:** *Jeepers Creepers (R)*. See Friday. 7 p.m.

► sun

► **XTREME FAMILY:** Family Xtreme Bowling is featured every Sunday in November, and you can get 90 minutes of one-lane bowling, a large one-item pizza, and a pitcher of soda for \$25 for up to six people from 1-8 p.m. Individual Xtreme games can be purchased for \$3.50 each. **552-4108**

► **MOVIE:** *Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back (R)*. The cult heroes who habitate movies directed by Kevin Smith (Silent Bob) make their first (and purportedly last) appearance in a film built around them. For fans of the pair what could be better? Oh yeah, and there's a plot: two stoners from New Jersey travel cross-country to foil a movie production. Sort of *Dumb and Dumber* meets *Road Trip* with a sprinkling of *Up In Smoke*. 7 p.m.

► fyi

► **PENNY PINCHER:** Make your money work for you by presenting a Services club card at most Services facilities throughout the base to receive a 10 percent discount on various features and fees. To become a club member, call **753-3131**.

► **POINT AND CLICK:** Navigate your mouse to find out where the fun and deals are by checking out the 3rd Services Squadron web site, which offers facility features, rates, activity schedules, and more at www.elmendorf-services.com.

► inside the fence

► **Give Parents a Break,** today from 7-11 p.m. at the Denali Child Development Center. **552-8304**

► **Autumn Leaf Glaze Layering,** Today from 7-9 p.m. for \$15 at the Skills Development Center. **552-2470**

► **Basic Sign II,** Saturday from 4-6 p.m. for \$30 at the Skills Development Center. **552-2470**

► **Homeschooler Crafts,** Monday from 1:30-3:30 p.m. for \$15 at the Skills Development Center. **552-2470**

► **PAC Food Drive,** Monday through Nov. 9 at the Denali

and Katmai Child Care Centers. **552-5113/8304**

► **Katmai Parent Representative Meeting,** Monday at 5 p.m. **552-5113**

► **Denali Parent Representative Meeting,** Tuesday at 5 p.m. **552-8304**

► **Wilton Cake Decorating III,** Wednesday from 6:45-8:45 p.m. for \$35 at the Skills Development Center. **552-2470**

► **Grapevine Vase,** Wednesday from 6-8 p.m. for \$35 at the Skills Development Center. **552-2470**

► **Canned Food Drive Bowling,** receive up to three

free games for canned foods at the Polar Bowl Wednesday. **552-4108**

► **Large Nativity Jesus and Animals,** Thursday from 6-9 p.m. for \$25 at the Skills Development Center. **552-2470**

► **Family Night,** Thursday at 5:30-9 p.m. at the Susitna Club. **753-3131**

► **Russian Egg Brush Work,** Nov. 9 from 7-9 p.m. for \$25 at the Skills Development Center. **552-2470**

► **Passes for everything from Skiing to Disneyland,** at Information, Tickets and Travel. **753-2378**

Challenging role pushes Stop-Loss to end of year

By **Gen. John P. Jumper**
Air Force Chief of Staff

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — When terrorists attacked our nation Sept. 11, killing thousands of Americans in Washington, New York and Pennsylvania, it thrust our Air Force into the forefront of a new war, like no other we have ever fought. New challenges await at home and abroad, challenges which call for new levels of commitment and dedication, not only for those of us in the military, but everyone in America.

I am proud to report that our Air Force has risen to the task. From the moment those jets hit the World Trade Center, we have been on the very highest state of alert, at points in the United States and around the world, providing air and space assets to protect our country and way of life.

That role took a more direct course Oct. 7, when Operation Enduring Freedom began with the bombing of strategic targets inside Afghanistan.

Along with the new and challenging roles for

our Air Force have come some very tough demands on our resources, particularly personnel. As a result, we have made a decision to continue Stop-Loss, extending across all Air Force Specialty Codes through the end of the calendar year.

This was not a decision that was reached lightly. Requirements for both Enduring Freedom and Operation Noble Eagle are evolving daily, which makes it difficult to release people from the force. We have never implemented a “Homeland Defense” program before, so we’re entering new territory, practically on a daily basis. We continue to work closely with the Guard and Reserve, striving to maintain the right level of vigilance.

The air staff here in Washington, along with input from the major commands, scrubbed each career field in order to get an idea of the numbers we have, and the numbers we need. The bottom line is that we are in the early stages of developing the requirements, thus to release any career fields from Stop-Loss at this time would be ill-advised.

We’ll take another look at the situation in

January. That will provide some added personnel stability during November and December, at a time when we need it the most — during the holidays. Hopefully, by January, requirements will be better defined so we may be able to release some career fields from Stop-Loss.

In the meantime, I ask that you continue to display the same pride and professionalism that have made our air and space force the best in the world. That may require you to serve in a different career field than you’re used to, allowing others to travel to forward locations, or to simply keep up the fight in your normal, everyday job.

Regardless of the role you play in the war against terrorism, take pride in the fact that you represent the greatest nation in the history of the world, one that projects its strength and power in a just and honorable manner. It is a fight we did not ask for, but one we accept in defense of freedom-loving people everywhere. We have fought and defeated the forces of evil many times throughout our existence. With your help, we will do so again.

Current operations delay regular AEF rotations

By **Gen. William J. Begert**
PACAF commander

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE, Hawaii — It’s hard to believe it’s been more than a month since so many innocent people lost their lives in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. These horrific acts still play in many of our minds as if they happened yesterday, but we take comfort that we have not sat by. We have brought the full measure of America’s military might into hunting down those responsible for these crimes, and putting an end

to worldwide terrorism.

As a result of the intense level of effort required to support Operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom, we have impacted our established Air Expeditionary Force deployment plans. Many people supporting AEFs 7 and 8 are deployed. Some assets aligned against AEFs 9 and 10 have been tasked to deploy, and in a few cases we have deployed people aligned against AEFs 1, 2 and beyond.

As the Air Force weighs its options for future action, we must all

understand that there may be a delay in rotating our deployed forces as currently scheduled under the AEF rotation plan. The mission, theater commander requirements and airlift constraints are all contributing factors to possibly extending those deployed. As we plan this new war on terrorism, our planners are carefully reviewing future rotations. Once final decisions have been made we will relay that information to you as expeditiously as possible.

I fully understand the sacrifices made by the families of our deployed

airmen, and I hope to deploy none of our forces more than necessary. But, we need to remember that the war on terrorism will require sacrifice — we are one team, one family, and we will share the burden across the Air Force.

We will adhere to the AEF construct as much as possible and make every effort to return to our planned AEF schedule as soon as possible, but I ask each of you for your patience and support. The future safety of America will forever be unsure if we don’t make the necessary sacrifices now.